THE SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN

JOIN THE REVOLUTION

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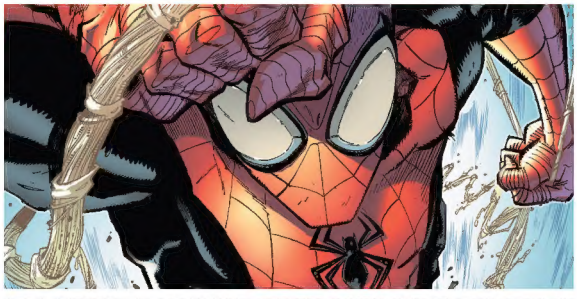
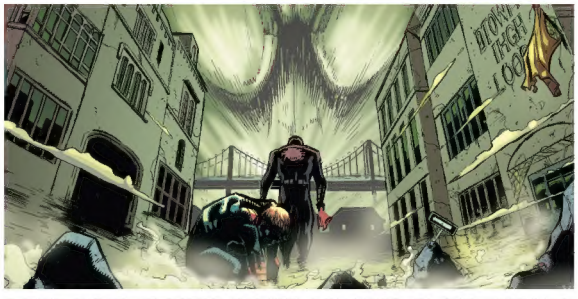
THE SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN

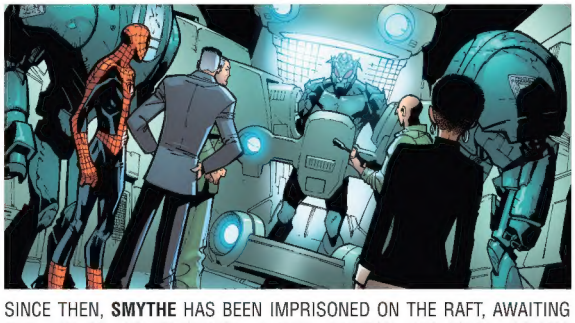


OTTO OCTAVIUS IS A MAN WHO CHEATED DEATH, BUT AT A PRICE. WHEN HE EXCHANGED BODIES WITH **PETER PARKER,** HE GAINED THE AMAZING SKILLS OF SPIDER-MAN—AND ALL OF PETER'S MEMORIES. OTTO FINALLY UNDERSTANDS PETER'S MISSION OF GREAT RESPONSIBILITY.



A TINY PIECE OF PETER PARKER REMAINED IN THE SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN'S BRAIN BUT OTTO BATTLED HIM WITHIN THE REALM OF HIS MIND AND ERADICATED HIM BY ERASING THE LAST OF PETER'S MEMORIES.

PREVIOUSLY, THE SPIDER-SLAYER **ALISTAIR SMYTHE** KILLED J. JONAH JAMESON'S WIFE, MARLA, WHO DIED SAVING JAMESON'S LIFE.



SINCE THEN, **SMYTHE** HAS BEEN IMPRISONED ON THE RAFT, AWAITING THE DAY OF HIS EXECUTION, A DAY JAMESON HAS BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO.

NO ESCAPE PART ONE: A LOCK FOR EVERY KEY

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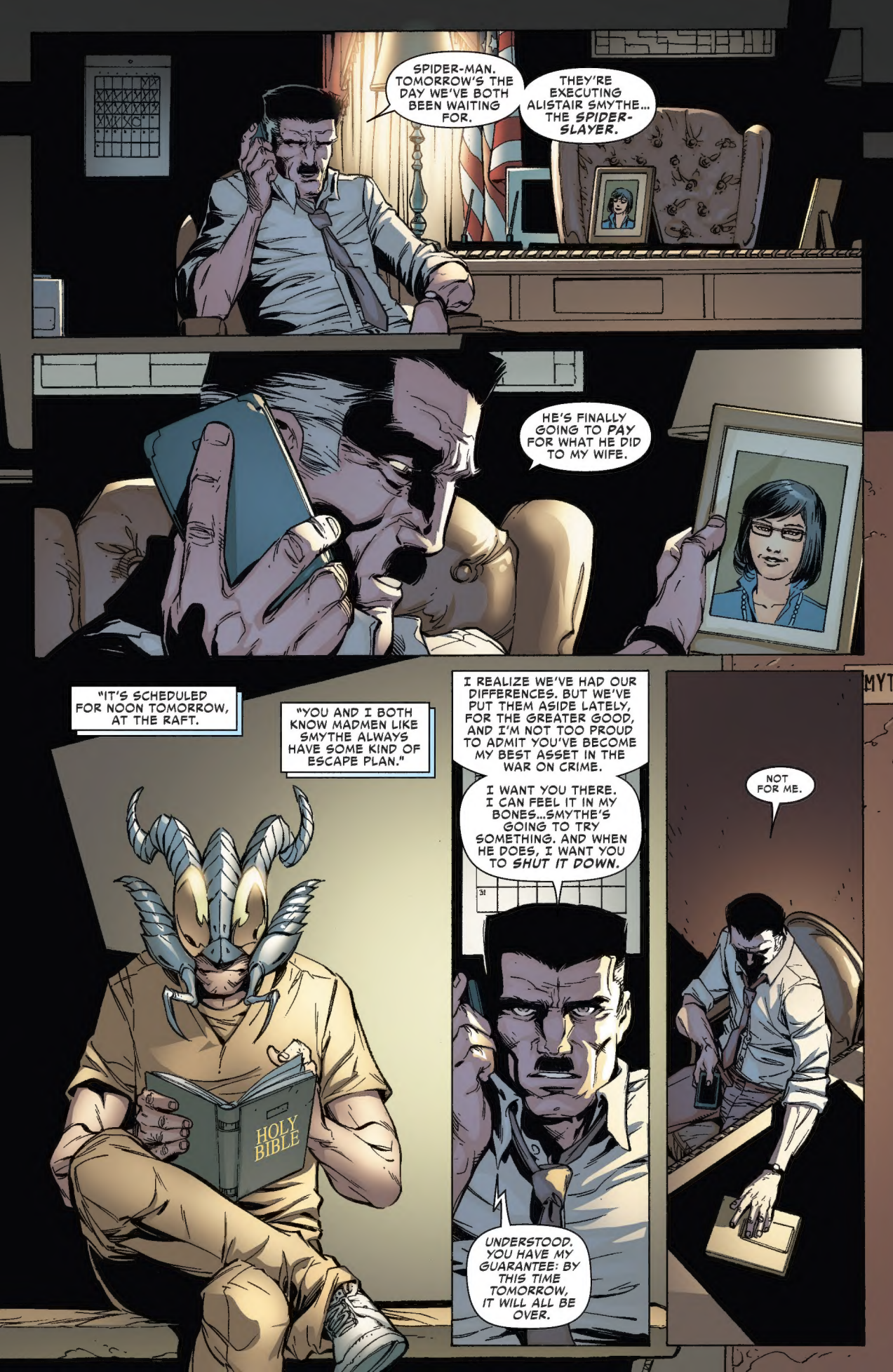
Empire State University.
MARLA JAMESO
TODAY WE WILL BE EXAMINING THE PHYSICS OF THE PARALLEL DIMENSION KNOWN AS THE NEGATIVE ZONE.
STUDIES SHOW THAT FOR EVERY MINUTE ON EARTH, APPROXIMATELY FIVE AND A HALF HOURS PASS IN THE NEGATIVE ZONE. HOWEVER, THIS RATIO DEPENDS ON--
I USED TO HAVE DREAMS LIKE THIS.
INEXPLICABLY BACK IN SCHOOL. LIVING MY EXCRUCIATING YOUTH ALL OVER AGAIN. A RECURRING NIGHTMARE.
OTTO, I DON'T GET ANY OF THIS! HE MIGHT AS WELL BE SPEAKING SANSKRIT! I'M GOING TO FAIL UNLESS YOU HELP ME!
REALLY, LAMAZE, IS THERE ANYTHING YOUR TINY MIND DOES COMPREHEND? VERY WELL, I'LL GO OVER IT WITH YOU AFTER CLASS...IF YOU SHUT UP.
BUT THIS NIGHTMARE IS ONE FROM WHICH I CANNOT WAKE.
AM I BORING YOU, MISTER PARKER?
SNAP
NO, DOCTOR LAMAZE.
YOU'D NEED TO TRIPLE YOUR I.Q. TO EVEN RISE TO THE LEVEL OF BORING ME, YOU BLITHERING, IDIOTIC DILETTANTE.
BUT I MUST SIT HERE AND MEEKLY ACCEPT BEING CHASTISED BY MY INTELLECTUAL INFERIOR BECAUSE PARKER NEVER BOTHERED TO GET HIS DOCTORATE.
THIS IS THE PRICE I PAY FOR CHEATING DEATH...FOR DEFEATING MY GREATEST ENEMY. HIS LIFE IS MY LIFE NOW. AND FOR BETTER OR WORSE, I AM TRAPPED IN IT.

ARE YOU TRYING TO ANTAGONIZE HIM? I REALIZE YOU ALREADY KNOW ALL THIS, BUT MAYBE TRY TO PRETEND YOU'RE NOT ABOUT TO SLIP INTO A COMA.
YOU'VE ALREADY PROVEN YOU CAN JUST SHOW UP FOR THE TESTS AND STILL GET THE HIGHEST SCORE. WHY DO YOU EVEN BOTHER COMING TO CLASS?
OH...I DO GET SOMETHING OUT OF IT.
HA. I KNEW IT.
ALL RIGHT, ANNA MARIA. I'LL PUT ON A BRAVE FACE AND--
DRRT DRRT
WAS THAT A CELL PHONE? SPEAK UP! I DEMAND TO KNOW WHO THINKS THEIR SOCIAL LIFE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF CREATION!
DRRT DRRT
THE PRIORITY NUMBER I GAVE THE MAYOR.
I HAVE TO TAKE THIS. PLEASE, CONTINUE YOUR..."TEACHING." I ASSURE YOU I WON'T MISS ANYTHING.
OF ALL THE ARROGANT, AUDACIOUS--!
SPEAK.
THIS IS GLORY GRANT. I HAVE AN URGENT CALL FROM MAYOR JAMESON.
I SHOULD HOPE SO, IF YOU'RE USING THIS NUMBER. PUT HIM THROUGH.


SPIDER-MAN. TOMORROW'S THE DAY WE'VE BOTH BEEN WAITING FOR.
THEY'RE EXECUTING ALISTAIR SMYTHE... THE SPIDER-SLAYER.
HE'S FINALLY GOING TO PAY FOR WHAT HE DID TO MY WIFE.
"IT'S SCHEDULED FOR NOON TOMORROW, AT THE RAFT.
"YOU AND I BOTH KNOW MADMEN LIKE SMYTHE ALWAYS HAVE SOME KIND OF ESCAPE PLAN."
HOLY BIBLE
I REALIZE WE'VE HAD OUR DIFFERENCES. BUT WE'VE PUT THEM ASIDE LATELY, FOR THE GREATER GOOD, AND I'M NOT TOO PROUD TO ADMIT YOU'VE BECOME MY BEST ASSET IN THE WAR ON CRIME.
I WANT YOU THERE. I CAN FEEL IT IN MY BONES...SMYTHE'S GOING TO TRY SOMETHING. AND WHEN HE DOES, I WANT YOU TO SHUT IT DOWN.
UNDERSTOOD. YOU HAVE MY GUARANTEE: BY THIS TIME TOMORROW, IT WILL ALL BE OVER.
NOT FOR ME.

The Raft Maximum Security Prison.
MR. MAYOR! TED SHIPLEY, HEAD OF SECURITY. EVERYTHING'S READY. UH, I WAS WONDERING IF YOU'D HAD A CHANCE TO REVIEW MY RESUME--
RAFT
I SHREDDED IT. IN YOUR TIME HERE, SHIPLEY, YOU'VE PRESIDED OVER A RIDICULOUS NUMBER OF ESCAPES, EVEN FOR THIS PLACE. MORBIUS, DR. OCTOPUS...
ALL YOU'VE DONE IS ENDANGER MY CONSTITUENTS. HIRE YOU? YOU'RE LUCKY I DON'T HAVE YOU BROUGHT UP ON CHARGES.
AR
HOUSING SUPERHUMAN SOCIOPATHS WITHIN SPITTING DISTANCE OF MANHATTAN...IT'S LUNACY. I'M ASHAMED IT TOOK ME SO LONG TO SHUT THIS HELLHOLE DOWN.
NOW WALK ME THROUGH WHAT YOU'RE DOING, AND BE GLAD YOU'RE GETTING OUT OF THIS WITH YOUR PENSION INTACT.
Y-YES, SIR. I PROMISE YOU...
...WE'RE TAKING EVERY POSSIBLE PRECAUTION.

WE'VE ALMOST CLEARED THE INFIRMARY. YOU MIGHT'VE SEEN JESTER AND SCREWBALL OUTSIDE... THEY WERE AMBULATORY. THE REST OF THESE GUYS...
WELL, THEY'RE THE ONES YOUR SPIDER-PAL GAVE SOME EXTRA TLC. HE BEAT BOOMERANG ALMOST TO DEATH.
PUNCHED THE SCORPION'S JAW CLEAN OFF. WE HAVE TO FEED HIM THROUGH A SPECIAL APPARATUS.
AND THE VULTURE'S BLIND, WITH MULTIPLE LACERATIONS. WE'RE BRINGING IN SPECIAL TRANSPORTS FOR ALL THREE.
MEYERS
TOOMES
THIS IS THE MAXIMUM SECURITY WING. ALMOST EVERYONE'S BEEN PLACED IN OTHER FACILITIES.
WHAT'S THE LIZARD STILL DOING HERE? THAT MONSTER KILLED A CHILD!
HE'S BEEN A MODEL PRISONER. QUIETER THAN THE MICE WE FEED HIM. WE'RE MOVING HIM TOMORROW, WITH THE OTHER LOW PRIORITY INMATES.
AND SMYTHE... WELL, THAT'S AN EASY ONE.
RAFT
HE'LL BE LEAVING IN A BODY BAG.

Horizon Labs.
South Street Seaport.
CAREFUL WITH THAT, YOU OAFS.
PETER! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? THAT'S A MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF HORIZON LABS EQUIPMENT, AND I HAVEN'T SEEN SO MUCH AS A MEMO ABOUT IT!
HORIZON
RAFT
RAFT
DS·GC·JD
THERE WASN'T TIME. IT'S FOR IMPORTANT SPIDER-MAN BUSINESS; THAT'S ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW. IF THE COST BOTHERS YOU, I'LL WRITE A CHECK.
I REALIZE SPIDER-MAN'S WORK IS IMPORTANT, BUT YOU STILL HAVE A JOB TO DO. THE END OF THE QUARTER'S COMING, AND YOU HAVEN'T SHOWN ME ANY NEW WORK.
GOOD GOD. I CAN'T EVEN BREATHE WITHOUT SOME SMALL-MINDED, TIN-POT DICTATOR ATTEMPTING TO ORDER ME ABOUT LIKE A COMMON OFFICE DRONE!
WE'RE READY TO ROLL HERE, MR. PARKER.
DON'T WORRY YOUR FUZZY LITTLE HEAD, MAX. I'LL TURN IN AN INVENTION SOON, AND IT'LL BE SO BRILLIANT IT'LL MAKE YOU WEEP. NOW RUN ALONG, HM?
I UNDERSTAND GREAT MINDS CAN BE ECCENTRIC, SO I ENCOURAGE FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION. BUT THIS IS STILL MY COMPANY. I'M THE BOSS.
AND THERE IS ONLY SO MUCH DISRESPECT I WILL TAKE FROM AN EMPLOYEE, NO MATTER HOW GIFTED.
YOU ARE DANGEROUSLY CLOSE TO REACHING THAT LIMIT.
AS ARE YOU, YOU GELATINOUS, BOHEMIAN POSEUR.
WHY MUST I ANSWER TO ANYONE, LET ALONE THAT IMBECILE? MINE IS ONE OF THE GREATEST MINDS ON THE PLANET.
I SHOULD BE CAPTAIN OF MY OWN DESTINY.

I THOUGHT IT MY ULTIMATE VICTORY WHEN I TRAPPED PETER PARKER'S MIND IN MY FAILING BODY, TO DIE IN MY PLACE.
BUT OF LATE I'VE BEGUN TO REALIZE I TRAPPED MYSELF AS WELL. IN HIS BODY. HIS LIFE. THE MYRIAD SHACKLES AND LIMITATIONS HE'D IMPOSED ON IT.
HAVING FELT HIS EXPERIENCES AS IF THEY WERE MY OWN, I CAN'T TURN MY BACK ON THE RESPONSIBILITY THAT COMES WITH THE POWER OF SPIDER-MAN.
NOR DO I WANT TO. BUT THERE IS NO REASON I MUST SHOULDER THAT RESPONSIBILITY THE SAME WAY HE DID.
TEK
I'VE ALREADY OUTDONE HIM IN SO MANY RESPECTS. PARKER'S SELF-HATE, HIS NAIVE NOTIONS OF SELF-FLAGELLATION, SPURRED HIM TO DO EVERYTHING THE HARD WAY.
BUT NOW THAT I'VE ERASED EVERY VESTIGE OF HIS PERSONA FROM MY MIND, IT'S OBVIOUS HOW POINTLESS THAT WAS. HOW SELFISH, REALLY.
SHOULD I BE ASHAMED FOR BUILDING THOUSANDS OF SPIDER-BOTS, PATROLLING THE CITY BETTER THAN ONE MAN EVER COULD?
IS IT WRONG TO USE EVERY POSSIBLE ADVANTAGE AGAINST RUTHLESS PSYCHOTICS WHO WOULD SLAUGHTER INNOCENTS BY THE DOZEN?
OF COURSE NOT.
I AM A FAR BETTER SPIDER-MAN THAN HE EVER WAS.

I'M THE SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN.
AND I WILL BE FREE.

WHAT IS ALL THIS STUFF?
I'M THE HEAD OF--
NEED TO KNOW, PAL. AS IN YOU DON'T.
RAFT
GAH!
WHAT IN THE NAME OF ELVIS AARON PRESLEY--
RAFT
RAFT
WELCOME TO THE RAFT, OCTOPUS. WE'LL TREAT YOU REAL NICE HERE.
SINCE YOU'RE TOO MESSED UP TO SHOWER, I'LL GIVE YOU BATHS PERSONALLY. HA!
THEY'RE WITH ME.
S-SPIDER-MAN! UH, WELCOME TO THE RAFT. I'M TED SHIPLEY, HEAD OF SECURITY. WE SHOULD COORDINATE--
I KNOW WHO YOU ARE.
RAFT
YOU'RE A COMPLETE AND TOTAL FAILURE. BOTH AS HEAD OF SECURITY AND AS A MAN.
DON'T BOTHER ME AGAIN.

I'M FOLLOWING THE SPECS, BUT I CAN'T TELL IF I'M DOING IT RIGHT. I DON'T KNOW WHAT ANY OF THIS STUFF DOES.
GOOD. THEN YOU CAN'T BE BRIBED TO SABOTAGE IT. JUST DO AS YOU'RE TOLD. I'LL INSPECT EVERYTHING AFTERWARD.
NYPD
YES...
EXCELLENT.
SPIDER-MAN. COME TO SUPERVISE THE SLAYING OF THE SPIDER-SLAYER, EH? I'M SURE YOU'RE THOROUGHLY ENJOYING THE IRONY OF THAT.
I'M SUPPOSED TO SAY SOMETHING TO THE EFFECT THAT I TAKE NO PLEASURE IN THE DEATH OF ANY HUMAN BEING, EVEN A WRETCH LIKE YOU.
BUT THE TRUTH IS, SMYTHE, I RELISH KNOWING THAT YOU'RE GOING TO DIE IN THIS--
--GODFORSAKEN... PLACE.

AND WILL YOU HEAR THE SCREAMING OF MARLA JAMESON IN YOUR HEAD, AS I SLAUGHTERED HER LIKE THE PIG SHE WAS? WILL YOU HEAR--
HEY! WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?
SPIDER-MAN?
DON'T WALK AWAY FROM ME, YOU COWARD!
DEAR GOD, IT WAS HERE.
IT'S JUST AN EMPTY CELL NOW, BUT NOT THAT LONG AGO I WAS HERE.
CELL 000B
OCTAVIUS
TRAPPED IN A LIFE SUPPORT SUIT. FEELING MY BODY SLOWLY ROTTING AWAY.
WAKING UP EVERY DAY KNOWING THIS WAS WHERE I WAS GOING TO DIE.
I'M DONE PLAYING GAMES WITH YOU, SMYTHE. UNLIKE YOU, I'M FREE TO LEAVE THIS PLACE.
CELL 000B
OCTAVIUS

"AND I WILL BE VERY GLAD WHEN YOU'RE DEAD, AND I NEVER HAVE TO LAY EYES ON IT AGAIN."
MY ASSISTANT, GLORY GRANT. NORAH WINTERS, FROM THE DAILY BUGLE. SECURITY CLEARED US ON THE MAINLAND.
LET'S GET ON WITH IT.
RAFT
I OBJECT TO MAYOR JAMESON'S PRESENCE. MAYBE I CAN'T PROVE HE USED HIS POLITICAL CONNECTIONS TO RUSH THIS EXECUTION, BUT HIS OFFICE HAS NO AUTHORITY IN THIS MATTER.
I'M NOT HERE AS MAYOR. I CAME AS THE WIDOWER OF ONE OF SMYTHE'S VICTIMS. I HAVE EVERY RIGHT TO BE HERE.
YOU FORFEITED THAT RIGHT WHEN YOU TOOK A BITE OUT OF MY CLIENT DURING THAT SPIDER-ISLAND BUSINESS!
THE MAYOR WAS HARDLY IN HIS RIGHT MIND.
NEITHER WAS MY CLIENT. WITH A BRAIN FULL OF CYBERNETICS...
...AND SUFFERING FROM DEPRESSION DUE TO JAMESON'S ROLE IN THE DEATH OF HIS FATHER.
THIS HAS ALL BEEN LITIGATED. YOU LOST.
I AM GOING TO WATCH THE SCUM WHO MURDERED MY WIFE DIE. AND I AM GOING TO ENJOY IT.
AND IF YOU TRY TO GET ME REMOVED OR DO ONE MORE THING TO DELAY THESE PROCEEDINGS...
...YOU WILL FIND OUT PRECISELY HOW MANY WAYS I CAN PERFECTLY LEGALLY MAKE YOUR LIFE HELL.
PLEASE, DON'T FIGHT ON MY ACCOUNT.
AR

I BEAR NO MALICE TOWARD MR. JAMESON, OR ANYONE ELSE HERE.
I'M A CHANGED MAN. I'VE GIVEN MY LIFE TO GOD.
I AM CONFIDENT THAT I WILL BE SAVED.
HOLY BIBLE
THAT OLD CHESTNUT? PLEASE. A LIFELONG CRIMINAL, A MURDERER, DOESN'T SUDDENLY BECOME A DIFFERENT--
--DIFFERENT...
WHY'D YOU STOP? THAT WAS GOLD.
IT DOESN'T MATTER. WE'RE WASTING TIME.
KILL THE MAN AND LET'S BE DONE WITH IT.
RAFT
YES.
LET'S.

GYAH!
AAA!
WHAT--?
NO! I KNEW IT!
I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN!
DON'T WORRY. THERE'LL STILL BE AN EXECUTION.
BUT THE SPIDER-SLAYER WILL BE CONDUCTING IT!

SO PREDICTABLE. PLAN ZETA ONE.
TEK
REMAIN CALM. MY SPIDER-BOTS WILL HANDLE THE MINI-SLAYERS.
SMYTHE IS MINE.

I'D LIKE NOTHING BETTER THAN TO LIVE UP TO MY NAME, BUT AT A TIME OF MY CHOOSING.
MY PRIORITY TODAY IS FREEDOM.
INDIVIDUAL CELLS ARE REINFORCED WITH ADAMANTIUM. BUT THERE ISN'T ENOUGH OF THAT PRECIOUS METAL TO LINE EVERY WALL.
GOODBYE, FOOLS!
WHRAAK
WHAT?

YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT THE WALLS. A GLARING WEAK SPOT.
"SO I'VE REINFORCED THEM WITH A *GRAVIMETRIC FIELD* THAT AUTOMATICALLY *INCREASES THE MASS* OF ANY AREA THAT SUFFERS DAMAGE.
"THE HARDER YOU HIT THEM, THE *STRONGER* THEY GET."
CLEVER.
BUT I HAVE *MORE THAN ONE* WAY OUT.
HAVE AS MANY AS YOU WISH.
KZZATT
AGH! LASERS--?

THERE IS NO METHOD OF ESCAPE I HAVEN'T THOUGHT OF. AND COUNTERED.
IMPOSSIBLE!
"I'VE BEEN HERE MONTHS. THINKING OF NOTHING ELSE."
SLAM
YOU CAN'T HAVE IMAGINED EVERY WAY OUT.
RRNCH
BUT I HAVE.
FWOOSH
THEN I'LL NEED TIME TO DISMANTLE YOUR DEFENSES.
MEANING YOU MUST BE DEAD.

"I HAVE A PLAN FOR THAT, TOO."
GAH! WHAT THE HELL--?
BOOMERANG! WHAT'S HAPPENING?
BUGS--NO, LITTLE ROBOTS--CRAWLING ALL OVER ME!
MY EYES! THEY'RE BURROWING INTO MY EYES!
GNAAHH!
HOLD ON. I DON'T HURT ANYMORE. IN FACT, I FEEL PRETTY GOOD.
I CAN SEE!
YOU CAN DO MORE THAN THAT. YOU'VE IMPROVED IN EVERY WAY, COURTESY OF THE SPIDER-SLAYER. I ONLY ASK ONE THING IN RETURN.

KILL SPIDER-MAN... ALONG WITH EVERYONE ELSE IN HERE...AND WE ARE ALL FREE.
YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE TO ASK, SMYTHE. KILLING THE SPIDER'S ALWAYS BEEN MY IDEA OF FUN. BUT AFTER WHAT HE DID TO ME--TO US--
--WE WON'T LEAVE ENOUGH OF HIM TO BURY.
To be continued!

'SUP SPIDER-MAN

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SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN #12

AVENGING SPIDER-MAN #22

DAREDEVIL #27

HAWKEYE #11

MORBIUS #8

VENOM #38

SCARLET SPIDER #20